

**From KMEG TV, Sioux City
Newscast, June 9, 2005**

A- IA GREAT PLACE

THANKS FOR BEING WITH US TONIGHT, I'M JOSIE KOLER.
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT LOCATION FOR THAT UPCOMING SUMMER VACATION, GOVENOR TOM VILSACK WANTS IOWANS TO KNOW THAT PLACE MAY BE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD.
THE "GREAT PLACES FORUM", A STATEWIDE INITIATIVE TO BRING ATTENTION TO THE UNIQUE AREAS OF IOWA, WAS HELD IN SIOUX CITY TODAY.
KMEG'S NATALIE DEGEZELLE WAS THERE AND TELLS YOU HOW TO TRANSFORM A HIDDEN TREASURE INTO A HOT DESTINATION SPOT.

P- IA GREAT PLACE

WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE.A GOOD VIEW? NICE PEOPLE? IOWA'S DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS SAYS IT'S ANYTHING YOU WANT IT TO BE!
"this could be a natural asset like a lake, river, wild prarie, or a cultural district downtown."
VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES ARE CONDUCTING FORUMS IN CITIES ACROSS THE STATE.
THEY'RE OUT TO SPARK IDEAS THAT WILL EVENTUALLY SHOWCASE THE "GREAT PLACES" OF IOWA.
TODAY IT WAS SIOUX CITY'S TURN.
"there is so much enthusiasm, there's so much creativity, and the fact of the matter is; iowans are really proud about our authentic, genuine assets."
AND IT'S TIME FOR THEM TO FIND ENJOYMENT RIGHT WHERE THEY LIVE.
Natalie DeGezelle
"THE INITIATIVE IS AIMED AT BRINGING OUT UNIQUE AREAS THAT MAY HAVE GONE UN-NOTICED AND IT ISN'T JUST LIMITED TO CITY OFFICIALS."
"the invitations can come from anyone, EDIT. it can be a group of people who have a great idea for a great place concept."
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING, PERHAPS IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD, TO BOAST OF.SUBMIT AN INVITATION TO THE GREAT PLACES COMMISSION.
COACHING TEAMS FROM STATE DEPARTMENTS WILL THEN BE SENT OUT TO THESE PRIME LOCALES TO WORK WITH LOCAL AGENCIES.
FROM THERE, THE "SITE SUBMITTER" WILL BE CONNCETED WITH STATE RESOURCES TO HELP MAKE THEIR SPOT WORTH VENTURING OFF THE MAP TO SEE OR EXPERIENCE.
IN OCTOBER, 3 PILOT GREAT PLACES WILL BE NAMED AND WILL SPEND THE YEAR WORKING WITH STATES DEPARTMENTS DEVELOPING THEIR GREAT PLACE.
"it's demistifying government, it's a one-stop-shop, so iowans don't need to negotiate their way through a wonderful myriad of programs and services that we have to offer, we'll work for you."
IN SIOUX CITY
NATALIE DEGEZELLE
KMEG NEWS

T- IA GREAT PLACE

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A GREAT PLACE, LOG ONTO THE IOWA CULTURAL AFFAIRS WEBSITE AT IOWA-GREAT-PLACES-DOT-GOV
THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING INVITATIONS IS JULY FIRST.